

LAW OFFICES
BLOOSTON, MORDKOFKY, DICKENS, DUFFY & PRENDERGAST, LLP
2120 L STREET, NW, SUITE 300
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

HAROLD MORDKOFKY
BENJAMIN H. DICKENS, JR.
JOHN A. PRENDERGAST
GERARD J. DUFFY
RICHARD D. RUBINO
MARY J. SISAK
D. CARY MITCHELL
SALVATORE TAILLEFER, JR.

ARTHUR BLOOSTON
1914 – 1999

(202) 659-0830
FACSIMILE: (202) 828-5568

AFFILIATED SOUTH AMERICAN OFFICES

ESTUDIO JAUREGUI & ASSOCIATES
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

ROBERT M. JACKSON
OF COUNSEL

PERRY W. WOOFER
LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANT

EUGENE MALISZEWSKYJ
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

September 27, 2012

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Attention: Lorenzo Miller or John Emmett
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of the Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90 and High Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337
Expedited Waiver Request of Silver Star Telephone Company, Inc., Wyoming Study Area 572295**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Silver Star Telephone Company, Inc. (Silver Star), by its attorney, and pursuant to Section 1.3 of the Commission's rules and the *HCLS Benchmarks Implementation Order*¹, hereby submits an expedited Petition for Waiver to correct erroneous data concerning density, road miles and road crossings for its Wyoming study area used in the quantile regression analysis model for limiting capital and operations expenses in the high cost loop support algorithm. In support of its request and as required by the *HCLS Benchmarks Implementation Order*, Silver Star provides the Commission with a CD-Rom containing a WinZip archive with the required Shapefile showing Silver Star's study area boundary² and Readme file with the information set forth in Appendix C of the *HCLS Benchmarks Implementation Order*.

As shown in the attachments to this filing, the data used in the benchmark methodology for the independent variables concerning density, road miles and road crossings is inaccurate for Silver Star's Wyoming study area. Accordingly, Silver Star asks the Commission to correct the following data:

¹ *Connect America Fund, High-Cost Universal Service Support*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 05-337, Order, 27 FCC Rcd 4235 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2012) (*HCLS Benchmarks Implementation Order*).

² The shapefile boundary is the boundary provided by the FCC. Silver Star does not dispute this boundary.

1. The Commission's data shows a density for the Wyoming study area of 3.667009 and the correct density is 3.533749 (see Exhibit Square Mileage, 1 and 2).
2. The Commission's data shows road miles for the Wyoming study area of 651.31 and the ESRI 2010 Street Map shows 704.09 road miles (see Exhibit 3).
3. The Commission's data shows road crossings for the Wyoming study area of 2378. The data in the ESRI 2010 Street Map shows 2,686 intersections, which indicates that there are 10,744 road crossings (see Exhibit 4).

In the *HCLS Benchmarks Implementation Order*, the Commission states that "when considering whether there are special circumstances and the public interest is served by granting a waiver of the benchmark methodology, we will be focusing on ensuring that accurate data is used to perform the necessary computations, regardless of the extent of support reduction."³ All the changes requested by Silver Star correct inaccurate data in the benchmark methodology. Accordingly, Silver Star's request meets the Commission's standard for demonstrating special circumstances that justify grant of an expedited waiver and that its request is in the public interest.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, Silver Star requests that the Commission expeditiously grant this waiver request. Silver Star also requests that the Commission apply the corrections to the benchmark methodology effective July 1, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Mary J. Sisak
Mary J. Sisak
Counsel for Silver Star Telephone Company, Inc.

Enclosure
Attachments

³ Id. at para. 31.

"Square Mileage"

Wyoming Study Area

Serving area

Alpine ID

Alpine WY

Freedom ID

Freedom WY

Totals

FCC SQUARE MILES
1,188.96

Exhibit # 1
"Density"

FCC	SSC
Density	DENSITY
3.667009	3.322239

housing units/square mile
use 2010 census Housing units
use SSC square mile

Exhibit # 2

Housing Units

Wyoming Study Area

Serving area

Alpine ID

Alpine WY

Freedom ID

Freedom WY

Totals

FCC Provided

3,950.00

Explanation:

2010.CENSUS.GOV/2010CENSUS/POPMAP

Exhibit # 3 "Road Miles"

Wyoming Study Area

Serving area	FCC Road Miles	ESRI 2010 Street Map	ESRI 2010 Difference
Alpine ID		29.86	
Alpine WY		94.30	
Freedom ID		113.88	
Freedom WY		466.05	
Totals	651.31	704.09	52.78

Explanation: 2000 vs. 2010 ESRI Road Miles

Exhibit # 4

Intersections/Road Crossings

Wyoming Study Area

Serving area	FCC Road Crossings	ESRI 2010 Street Maps Intersections	ESRI 2010 Road Crossings	ESRI 2010 Road Crossing Difference
Alpine ID		114.00	456.00	
Alpine WY		663.00	2,652.00	
Freedom ID		286.00	1,144.00	
Freedom WY		1,623.00	6,492.00	
Totals	2,378.00	2,686.00	10,744.00	8,366.00

Explanation: Data Extraction From Esri 2010 Street Maps of intersections
Road Crossings = 4*Intersections

As stated in the Matter of Connect America Fund - High-Cost Universal Service Support, Order, WC Docket No. 10-90 and 05-337, Adopted: April 25, 2012 and Released April 25, 2012, by the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau:

Footnote 57: "NRIC reiterated the usefulness of the road crossing data in its comments. NRIC Comments at 25.

Note that we calculate road crossings rather than intersections because counting intersections is computationally very burdensome. Two roads that cross at right angles (forming a plus sign) create four crossings. We believe that road crossings is a good proxy for road intersections."

Silver Star Communications has utilized this exact formula in deriving the information and numbers in this exhibit.